

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

initializing a program on a file server through administrator action to activate the program, the program being capable of creating an account without further administrator action;

requesting the account from a requestor on a client, the requestor being activated through administrator action and capable of bypassing communication to an administrator; and

processing a request for the account wherein the program is capable of processing the request and bypassing an intervening administrator action;

wherein processing the request further includes,

checking for mode enablement to determine if the requestor has permission to request the account, and

checking for an account limitation to determine if a maximum number of accounts created has been reached.

2. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein initializing the program includes activating the program, the program being capable of operating continuously.

3. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein requesting the account includes transmitting an account identifier to the program.

4. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein processing the request includes executing operations when the program receives an account identifier.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 4, wherein processing the request further includes resolving the account identifier and manipulating security tokens to encrypt the account identifier and an account password.

7. (Original) A method of claim 4, wherein processing the request further includes creating a directory and configuring software settings.

8. (Original) A method of claim 7, wherein creating a directory includes allocating locations on a directory tree structure.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for account creation without administrator intervention, comprising:

initializing a program through administrator action to activate the program, the program being capable of monitoring a network connection for an account request and capable of creating an account without further administrator action;

receiving the account request from a software agent and authenticating an account identifier for a new account; and

processing the account request by creating a location in a structure managed by an operating system for maintaining accounts;

wherein processing the account request further includes,

checking for mode enablement to determine if a requestor of the account has permission to request the account, and

checking for an account limitation to determine if a maximum number of accounts created has been reached.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for creating an account without an administrator action, comprising:

a requestor operating on a client, the client being coupled to a connector, wherein the requestor is capable of requesting the account;

a network attached storage (NAS) device coupled to the connector, the NAS device being capable of storing the account; and

a program capable of continuous operation on a file server, the program being activated through administrator action, the file server being coupled to the connector, wherein the program is capable of monitoring a connection point for a request to create the account and subsequently creating the account without further administrator action;

wherein creating the account further includes,

checking for mode enablement to determine if the requestor has permission to request the account, and

checking for an account limitation to determine if a maximum number of accounts created has been reached.

11. (Original) A system for creating an account without an administrator action of claim 10, further comprising a database for authenticating an account identifier.

12. (Original) A system for creating an account without an administrator action of claim 11, wherein the program is coupled to the database.

13. (Original) A system for creating an account without an administrator action of claim 11, further comprising a directory in a directory tree structure.

14. (Original) A system for creating an account without an administrator action of claim 13, wherein the program initiates at least one process to create the directory.

15. (Currently Amended) A network, comprising:  
a first computer coupled to a network connector, the first computer being capable of requesting the creation of an account;  
a second computer coupled to the network connector;  
a network attached storage (NAS) device coupled to the network connector, the NAS device being capable of storing the account; and  
a program residing in the second computer, the program being activated through administrator action, wherein the program creates the account without further administrator action, wherein creating the account further includes,  
checking for mode enablement to determine if a requestor in the first computer has permission to request the account, and  
checking for an account limitation to determine if a maximum number of accounts created has been reached.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) A network of claim 15, further comprising a database coupled to the network connector, the database capable of providing data to authenticate an account identifier.

18. (Original) A network of claim 15, wherein the network connector is capable of facilitating file sharing.

19. (Original) A network of claim 16, further comprising a directory in a directory structure.

20. (Original) A network of claim 19, wherein the directory structure is a tree structure.